

RUMANIAN ARMY IS SAVED BY RUSSIANS

Remnants of King Ferdinand's
Forces Now Safe Behind
Muscovite Lines.

HOPE TO STOP INVADER

Stand Is to Be Made on the
Sereth Against Von
Mackensen.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—What survives of the Rumanian army is safe, withdrawn behind the Russian line to be reorganized. The whole Rumanian front is now held by Russian troops alone. A Paris despatch quotes the *Petit Parisien* as stating this on authority.

The Russians will make a stand on or near the Sereth line and are even now in strong positions where it is expected Von Mackensen's drive can be stopped. Thus Russia hopes to save the Rumanian northern province, making good a part of Gen. Brusiloff's promise to save Rumania.

Already the survivors of Rumania's army, estimated when it entered the war as high as 700,000 men, are sheltered by the Russians. They are all beyond the Sereth River in Jassy, the new Rumanian capital in the Russian province of Bessarabia.

Russians Take Charge.
Once Bucharest and Ploesti were lost, on December 4, the Russians took complete charge of the situation. They sent heavy forces, particularly of cavalry, to check the Teutons, while King Ferdinand's army started a rapid retreat that did not end until it had lost 100,000 men from the scene of its defeat. The Rumanians covered the retreat.

Muscovite troops offered strong resistance to the Teutons near Buzau, not with the intention of holding the city but of delaying the invaders until the Rumanian army could be reorganized. Engineers had finished constructing a defensive line south of the Sereth.

Russia is now accomplishing the remarkable feat of holding a front of roughly 1,000 miles, exclusive of Asia Minor, giving ground only in Rumania for strategic reasons. Russian troops also are fighting under Sarraï in Macedonia and are holding a sector of the Champagne front in France.

While Russia was extending her front across Rumania the Teutons were able to break through nowhere else or even to dent the Russian lines in Galicia or Volynia, and without the aid of a series of terrific attacks in the Carpathians.

The official statements to-day indicate that Von Mackensen's troops are facing the Russian prepared line. Their progress is not so rapid as in the last fortnight. The day statement from Berlin reports that the situation is unchanged. The announcement that "hostile columns" whether Russian or Rumanian, had not started retreating to Braila on the Sereth line was interpreted by the press as referring to retreating Rumanians.

To-night's Berlin statement mentions only "minor engagements resulting favorably to us" in Wallachia. In Dobruja, however, it is announced that the Babadag-Pecineaga line has been crossed by the troops pursuing Gen. Sakharoff. No surprise is felt at that, for Sakharoff had to abandon that line to conform to the situation in Wallachia. The line is twenty-five miles south of the Danube loop, a few miles north of the Constanta-Cernavoda line.

Ready for Von Mackensen.
The Russian statement to-day, interpreted by the *Wireless Press*, bears out the idea that little more progress will be possible for Von Mackensen before he encounters opposition far stronger than any he has yet encountered. It reads:

On the Rumanian front, in the region west and southwest of Rominik-Basarai, our scouts made reconnaissance. In the region of the Filipești railway station and in the region of Dinobog, the offensive of the enemy was arrested by our troops.

The German official statement on Rumanian fighting other than that in Wallachia follows:

Front of Archduke Joseph.—In the Mestececel sector, east of the Golden Bystritsa, there was a violent artillery duel. Local engagements with varying success occurred in the Uzul Valley.

German naval airplanes dropped bombs on December 16 on Russian sea forces in the port of Sulina on the middle of the three estuaries of the Danube in the Dobruja. A hostile hydroplane was shot down by machine gun fire.

MAYOR TESTIFIES IN LAWSUIT.

Denies Revolver Which Fell to Court Room Floor Was His.

Mayor Mitchell appeared as a witness yesterday before Supreme Court Justice Plazek at the opening of the suit for \$100,000 damages brought by George L. Tirrell, chief of the city of New York, against the *Herald* for alleged libel in connection with Tirrell's salary increase. While the Mayor was waiting to be called a revolver fell from the floor. It came from the Mayor's pocket, according to an attendant near by. The Mayor, however, denied he had dropped a pistol. On the stand the Mayor testified to the effect that Tirrell's raise was not wedged into the 1915 budget at the last minute, as intimated in the *Herald* article.

He gave similar testimony in the suit by Tilden Adamson, chief of the bureau of contract supervision, who won \$25,000 damages against the newspaper on the basis of stories alleging that he had received a pay increase of \$1,500 through "trickery."

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LEAVES WAR TO WIN A BRIDE.

British Soldier, Here on Mission, to Return to France.

WATERBURY, Conn., Dec. 18.—Arm in arm with his bride to be, Private James Messenger of the British army left here to-night for New York, where he will finish the mission on which he left the trenches in France and came to this country.

The bride to be is Elizabeth Laura Stahn, who was a school girl in Lower Connecticut when he was a boy here. Before she came to this country six years ago she promised to wait for him, but the call to war came and Messenger answered it. He has been serving as a gunner here.

Messenger kept up his correspondence from the trenches, and finally she agreed to marry him if he came over. He got the furlough, reached here Sunday night, and after they are married they will return—she to a home in Birmingham, England, and he to the trenches.

BRITISH SURE OF "NO" TO GERMANY

Continued from First Page.

contains no terms and the impression prevails in official circles that until these are disclosed a conference is impossible. While the British Foreign Office was awaiting the statement from Ambassador Page a similar delivery was taking place in Paris.

The Swiss Minister at Rome presented the note of the Central Powers to the Swiss Government and through the same Government a channel of communication was opened to Belgium and Portugal, also without comment. The Netherlands Minister tendered the peace proposals to the Netherlands Government.

Prior to receipt of the note by the British Foreign Office the deliveries to Italy, Belgium and other countries had permitted exchanges concerning the exact official contents, which proved to be substantially the same as given in the speech made in the Reichstag by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and without containing any specific indication of the terms.

After Lloyd George's speech showing the general attitude of the British Government, exchanges between the Entente Allies will determine the nature of the reply, but informal conferences already have been held.

It is understood that the assertion made in the German note that the war was forced upon Germany will not be permitted to go unchallenged and that as a matter of historical record Germany's part in the events leading to the war will be clearly shown. What is termed by British officials as Germany's "method" of waging war, the killing of civilians, women and children, particularly in the recent Belgian deportations, will also probably be pointed out in the reply.

The statement, which none of the Entente Allies has yet received, is believed to have reached 120,000.

While the note as presented makes no reference to a conference there continue to be indications that Germany is seeking one. This has led to a careful study of the last precedent—that of the conference preceding the peace conference at the close of the Crimean war. A preliminary conference was held at Vienna in 1854 and proved abortive, but the German peace proposals should be settled the terms was held at Paris a year later and the discussions at the conference served largely as a basis.

The *Westminster Gazette*, which all along has held strongly to the opinion that the German peace proposals should receive a serious reply, commented to-day on the statement that the note contains no terms and added:

"If the German note contains no details and is merely a repetition of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech in the Reichstag, the prospect of any immediate result is exceedingly slight."

Bonar Law, Chairman of the Exchequer, announced in the Commons that Parliament before it was prorogued would be asked to pass a bill to authorize the Treasury to issue a loan of £100,000,000.

The bill, said the Chancellor, would not state the terms of issue as it is not certain that the loan would be issued. The bill merely would enable the Treasury to issue the loan if the Government thought the time opportune. It is hoped that Parliament may be prorogued on Friday, to reassemble early in February.

RIDICULE IN JAPAN.

Peace Project Is Regarded by Newspapers as Farcical.

TOKYO, Dec. 18.—The German peace proposal probably will be delivered to the Japanese Government to-morrow. Commenting on the proposal the newspapers declare that Japan will never agree to surrender Kiao-chow. In general they express the opinion that the peace project as it has been reported in the news despatches is a farcical procedure and will be unacceptable to the Entente because it is tantamount to abandonment of the object for which the Entente Powers have waged war.

SAY GEN. VON FARBCK IS DEAD.

Commander on Somme Ill Since Summer, Despatches Assert.

LONDON, Dec. 18 (Tuesday).—Gen. von Farbeck, commander in chief of one of the German armies on the western front, is dead, according to German newspapers, says a Reuters despatch from Amsterdam.

An Exchange Telegraph despatch from Amsterdam says that Gen. von Farbeck commanded on the Somme front and that he became sick after the summer fighting.

NIGHT WORK CASE DISMISSED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Without deciding constitutional questions raised by the Supreme Court to-day dismissed a test case appealed by the Charles Schwabner Press, a corporation of New York city, to determine validity of New York's woman labor law which prohibits night employment of women.

The court held that the question had not been determined as required by the highest New York court, but only by an inferior court.

GERMANY LIES, SAYS CHIEF OF RED CROSS

M. Ador Flatly Contradicts Assertion Regarding Belgian Deportations.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—The Foreign Office has communicated to the Associated Press the evidence of Gustave Ador, ex-president of the Swiss Confederation and now president of the International Red Cross and the testimony of a witness to the deportations from Lille, Roubaix and Tournai to disprove the declaration of the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* of Berlin, that delegates of the International Red Cross cooperated in the designation of persons for deportation by the Germans.

"No delegates of the International Red Cross took part in the designation of those deported from Lille, Tournai, Roubaix, or elsewhere in France or Belgium," said M. Ador. "The Government of Belgium dissolved the Belgian central Red Cross committee and placed the organization under German direction. It is possible that delegates from the German Red Cross were present during the operations."

Machine Guns Fester.

who witnessed the deportations and whose sworn affidavit has been taken, the Foreign Office statement says, the streets of the town were herded by the German troops at 2 o'clock in the morning while machine guns were posted on all the street corners. A patrol forced an entrance to the houses and demanded lists of the inhabitants. Persons were picked out for deportation and ordered to prepare instantly.

The first victims, men, women, girls, boys and children, were driven into the big wool combining mill of Alfroid Morel & Co., remote from the town and near the railway.

"I wondered at the stubbornness of the machine gunners," wrote the aviator, "considering that he must have been blind for a long time ago; but he continued to circle in the same fashion. Reason told me the man must be dead and that the machine was being maintained in its right position only by the rubber bands at the helm. Therefore I approached closely and saw the occupant of the machine leaning over the right side, dead. The airplane bore the number 7495. The horrible picture left me unshaken. I let the man alone and attacked the next one."

GERMANS REPULSED AFRESH AT VERDUN

Crown Prince's Troops Try to Regain Seven Mile Front After Bombardment.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—The Crown Prince last night attacked furiously to recapture the French line after a new bombardment from the French. His troops got into the French trenches at one small point on the front of nearly seven miles. To-day the French came back and drove the Germans out again. Every foot of ground won in the great attack of Friday is restored to France.

The German attack of last evening was preceded by a strong bombardment lasting twenty-four hours of all the new French positions on the right bank of the Meuse from Vauchamps, on the river bank to Bernvaux, German shells of all calibres burst incessantly. Particularly on Pepper Ridge and the Chambray farm the German gunners concentrated.

When dusk fell the German infantry came from their trenches and started across the small blasted ground to where the French lay waiting. Their French guns and machine guns opened upon them a terrific fire, and the advancing lines were broken. At many places they never got near the French trenches. At the Chambray farm, about the center of the new French front, the strongest German attack was delivered against positions held by the French. The French held the French trenches not a stone's throw away.

Then came the French counter attack. Dashing from their trenches about the scrap of ground held by the German the French infantry flung themselves upon their opponents with rifle, bayonet and bomb, while the French artillery laid a barrage fire of mathematical precision.

After a "spirited engagement" the official statement says, the French "drove the enemy from the Chambray farm, which we occupy anew in its entirety. We took two machine guns."

Since last Friday, when the big Verdun attack was made, the French have taken 11,387 prisoners, of whom 284 are officers, it is announced.

EXPLOITS OF HERO AVIATOR ARE TOLD

Boelke's Reports of Combats With Knights of the Air Published.

BERLIN (by wireless), Dec. 18.—Replete with dramatic incidents and interesting features are the reports just published of the late Capt. Boelke, the famous German aviator, who brought down forty hostile airplanes during his service with the army, which ended with his death on October 29 last. As summarized by the *Overmars News Agency*, these reports from the field include the following:

Shortly after the opening of the war, on October 27, 1914, Boelke reported that on a reconnoitering trip over Rhine he had observed nine batteries, one of which was in close proximity to the cathedral. On July 6, 1915, Boelke reported:

"The superiority of the German machines is becoming more apparent. To-day I had the impression that the enemy was no longer offering resistance but that he had surreptitiously to a hope of escape. Shortly before the fall of the hostile machine the observer made a typical movement with his hand as if to say: 'Why let us go on? We are done for, and surrender.'"

The reports show that in the majority of the air engagements the distance between the machines was about 100 meters, but often only from thirty to forty meters. On November 2, 1915, Boelke approached a French aviator as close as three meters. He said:

"I did not help him, for I was much quicker. I fired 500 shots, keeping up the fire until he began to fall. I approached to a distance of three meters and still he hadn't begun to come down. At the moment when a collision seemed inevitable I turned my machine rapidly on its side. The enemy turned his upside down on the right hand. I did not see him any more."

Boelke reported a gruesome incident on one of the last of his raids, on October 8 of this year.

"I wondered at the stubbornness of the machine gunners," wrote the aviator, "considering that he must have been blind for a long time ago; but he continued to circle in the same fashion. Reason told me the man must be dead and that the machine was being maintained in its right position only by the rubber bands at the helm. Therefore I approached closely and saw the occupant of the machine leaning over the right side, dead. The airplane bore the number 7495. The horrible picture left me unshaken. I let the man alone and attacked the next one."

"I am unable to tell you how we will be affected. Probably we shall arrange some according to the demand of our guests. We expect to lose money, but we are unable to help ourselves. We hope the Government will see a way to better economy soon."

"Progressive" Dinner Parties.
One Government official told the correspondent of *The Sun* that he considered the regulations foolish. People will get around them in many ways, he said. Progressive dinners will soon become the smart thing. A progressive dinner party might have the oysters and soup at the Ritz; entrée, fish and game at the Carlton; the roast, vegetables and salad at the Piccadilly, and sweets, dessert and coffee at the Savoy.

"If the regulations continue we shall soon be forced to return to the stodgy British menu of roast mutton, boiled potatoes and milk pudding," he concluded.

The small table d'hôte restaurants in Soho are badly hit. They serve a many course luncheon and dinner of small portions. They must now cut the menu and reduce the number of dishes, which it is believed will prove to be false to provide numerous courses of light food than three heavy, substantial ones. The Government will find more money in this way than before.

It is thought. On the first day every one is hoping alterations will be made in the regulations. It is almost certain that the Government has given assurances, including mention of days, restricted use of sugar and white flour, will be put in force.

\$10,000 FOR AERO ROYALTY.
Wright Co. Announces Terms for Use of Control Principle.
The Wright-Martin Aircraft Corporation, which has acquired the Wright patents, announced yesterday the terms upon which other companies may manufacture airplanes using the Wright principle of control. It proposes to issue a license, the holder of which shall pay to the Wright-Martin Corporation 5 per cent. of the gross receipts, with a minimum annual royalty of \$10,000. Claims for past development and royalties are paid on the 1916 business.

President Hagar of the Wright-Martin Aircraft Association said yesterday: "Great interest in this matter is likely to be felt in Washington because many of the companies which have sold machines to the Government have given assurances that if the Government will pay royalties the company will make good."

In expanding its aerial navy the Government has enlisted the services of many manufacturers, some of whom turn out only a few machines a year. Persons interested in this development said last night they could not see how the small manufacturers could afford to pay the \$10,000 minimum royalties.

KAISER'S CONSUL CLAIMS FRAMEUP

Bopp Says England's Representative Concocted Bomb Plot Against Him.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Charges that A. Carnegie Ross, British Consul-General in San Francisco, had plotted with secret agents to discredit representatives of the German Government in this city were made by the defense to-day in the trial of German Consul-General Franz Bopp and six others, charged with conspiring to violate American neutrality by destroying munitions of war destined for the Entente Allies.

Otto O. Orr, private detective and a Government witness, testified to-day that he had seen Johannes van Koolbergen, one of the defendants, carry a bomb with a clock exploding device to the office of the German Consul-General on August 18, 1915. He said Van Koolbergen was admitted to a room in the consulate office usually occupied by Bopp. Van Koolbergen displayed the bomb to himself and to W. A. Mundell, head of a private detective agency, Orr testified.

"Don't you know that the bomb was taken to Consul Bopp's office as a result of a frameup between defendant and British Consul-General A. Carnegie Ross?" asked Theodore A. Roche of counsel for the defense. Orr denied that he had such knowledge.

"Who signed consulate checks?" asked United States District Attorney Preston of Frederick Jensen, a clerk in the consulate, who was on the witness stand. "Mr. Bopp," replied Jensen.

It is the purpose of the Government, Preston said, to connect Bopp with the money paid by the consulate to Louis J. Smith and C. C. Crowley for alleged dynamiting activities.

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LONDON EATS TWICE FOR A SQUARE MEAL

New Food Economy Regulations a Hardship on Hotels and Military.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—London's new food economy regulations, which are in force to-day, will compel hotels and restaurants to serve meals so small that those with hearty appetites may have to go from one restaurant to another to get a square meal. The public refuses to believe the regulations will stand the test.

Beginning to-day hotels and restaurants may serve only a two course luncheon or supper and a three course dinner. Officers are not allowed to spend more than 25 cents for luncheon or \$1.50 for dinner. The manager of the Piccadilly Hotel expressed to the correspondent of *The Sun* the following opinion on the regulations:

"The new methods mean we shall be unable to sell what we can provide. We must keep up the price of the service will suffer. About 2,000 orders for supper nightly at the new price would not pay for light and heat and clothes. All the hotels are filled with the military now, who are not allowed to spend money for food. Civilians are able to spend as much as they like, which is unfair to the military."

"If the Government wants to save it should insist that no sweets be served five days of the week, and should set mealless days. The present restriction is no economy. Patrons can go to several restaurants on the same night to escape hunger. I don't think the regulations will last long."

"I am unable to tell you how we will be affected. Probably we shall arrange some according to the demand of our guests. We expect to lose money, but we are unable to help ourselves. We hope the Government will see a way to better economy soon."

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German Bonds Held in Reprisal.
LONDON, Dec. 18.—Sir Samuel Evans, President of the British Prize Court, ruled to-day that German bonds held under the reprisal order and that German securities to the value of 30,000 marks, which were seized while on their way in a letter to the State Comptroller and Savings Bank of Chicago, should remain in court.

MRS. VANDERBILT UNDER SHELL FIRE

She Writes of Her Visit to First Line Trenches on the French Front